

brothers and they consecutively married the same sister; VII also subsequently married his niece; VIII married two of his own sisters consecutively; XII and XIII were brothers and consecutively married their sister, the famous Cleopatra." "The line of descent was untouched by these intermarriages, except in the two cases of III and VIII." The close intermarriages were sterile. The line was continued by others.<sup>1</sup> The Peruvian Incas, but not other Peruvians, 'married their sisters.'<sup>2</sup> In the Vedic mythology the first man and king of the dead, Yama, had his sister, Yami, to wife. In a hymn these two are represented as discussing the propriety of marriage between brother and sister. This shows the revolt of later mores against what once was not tabooed.<sup>3</sup> The scholars think that Herodotus (III, 31), by his story of the question whether Cambyses could marry his sister, shows that such marriages were not allowed amongst the ancient Persians. They are mentioned as a usage of the magi. In the Avesta they are prescribed as holy and meritorious. They are enjoined by religion. They were practiced by the Sassanids,<sup>4</sup> although in the Dinkart version of the law they are apologized for and to some extent disavowed.<sup>5</sup> After the time of Cambyses such marriages occurred, especially in the royal family. They now occur amongst the Persians.<sup>6</sup>

520. In the Chaldean religion the gods and goddesses were fathers, sons, brothers, sisters, and mothers, as well as husbands and wives, to each other. The notions of "son of god" and "mother of god" were very current. Marduk is son of Ea and intercessor for men with him.<sup>7</sup> In the laws of Hammurabi, if a man consorts with his mother after the death of his father, both

are to be burned. Incest with a daughter is punished only by banishment. This light punishment may be only a concession to public opinion, since the culprits injured no interest but their own.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Galton, *Hered. Genius*^ 151. <sup>2</sup> Prescott, *Peru*, I, 117.

<sup>8</sup> Hopkins, *Relig. of India*, 131; Zixnmer, *Altind. Leben*, 333.

<sup>4</sup> Darmstetter, *Zend-Avesta*, Introd., xlv.

<sup>5</sup> Justi, *Persien*, 225.

<sup>6</sup> Geiger, *Ost-Iran. J&ltltur*, 245-247.

<sup>7</sup> Tiele, *Gesck. der Relig. im AHerthum*, I, 174.

<sup>8</sup> Müller, *Hammurabi*, 129.